



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FUNDING AVAILABLE UNDER THE MARINE FISHERIES INITIATIVE (MARFIN) AND THE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM (CRP)

NOAA Fisheries Service announces the availability of Federal assistance to award cooperative agreements under the Marine Fisheries Initiative (MARFIN) and the Cooperative Research Program (CRP). An omnibus notice of the two competitions, published in the *Federal Register* on July 2, 2007, lists the MARFIN priorities and the CRP priorities. The omnibus notice is available at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/grants/grants.htm> or from the State/Federal Liaison Branch at the mailing address above. CRP and/or MARFIN application packages are available from, and should be submitted through, www.grants.gov. If an applicant does not have Internet access, applications should be obtained from, and sent to, the State/Federal Liaison Branch.

COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM:

The CRP program is a means of involving commercial and recreational fishermen in the collection of fundamental fisheries information in the Gulf of Mexico and off the South Atlantic states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Applicants are encouraged to address one of the priority areas (A. Finfish; B. Caribbean Fisheries; C. Recreational and Charter Fishery; and D. Commercial Shrimp Harvest) as they pertain to Federally-managed species or species relevant to Federal fisheries management plans, but proposals in other areas will be considered. Priority needs are for information which can be utilized for future assessments. Priority selection may be given to projects which focus on providing information pertaining to the species of concern established by Southeast Data Assessment Review (SEDAR) Steering Committee and listed in the omnibus notice. **CRP applications must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern standard time (EST) on August 31, 2007.** Applications received after that time will not be considered for funding.

MARFIN:

The MARFIN program provides financial assistance for projects that optimize the use of fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico and off the South Atlantic involving the U.S. fishing industry (recreational and commercial). Proposals should state whether the research applies to the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, or North Atlantic for highly migratory species, or multiple areas. MARFIN applicants are encouraged to address one of the priority areas (A. Bycatch; B. Reef Fish and other Fishery Resources Associated with Reef Environments; C. Red Snapper Research; D. Coastal Migratory Pelagic Fisheries; E. Gulf of Mexico Red Drum; F. Essential Fish Habitat; and G. Economic and Sociocultural Studies) as they pertain to Federally-managed species or species relevant to Federal fisheries management. **MARFIN applications must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EST) on August 1, 2007.** Applications received after that time will not be considered for funding.